

## Claims

What is claimed is:

- 1        1. A method, comprising:  
2            receiving a request associated with a specification at a first access point to  
3            locate a second access point capable of supporting the specification.
  
- 1        2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
2            receiving a list of candidate access points including the second access point  
3            at the first access point.
  
- 1        3. The method of claim 1, wherein the specification includes at least one of a  
2            network type, a network capability, a network activity level, an access point  
3            capability, a signal strength, a bandwidth, a signal-to-noise ratio, a signal-to-  
4            interference ratio, a multipath condition, a service provider, a monetary cost,  
5            user-preferred information, a user-preferred service, a nominal packet size, a  
6            maximum packet size, a minimum service interval, a maximum service  
7            interval, a minimum data rate, a mean data rate, a maximum burst size, a  
8            minimum physical-layer rate, a peak data rate, a delay bound, a surplus  
9            bandwidth allowance, an acknowledgement policy, and a user priority.
  
- 1        4. The method of claim 3, wherein the access point capability includes a traffic  
2            specification.
  
- 1        5. The method of claim 4, wherein the traffic specification is selected in  
2            accordance with an Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE)  
3            802.11 standard.

- 1        6. The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
2            determining, by the first access point, that the second access point will  
3        support the specification.
- 1        7. The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
2            constructing a list of candidate access points including the second access  
3        point.
- 1        8. An article comprising a machine-accessible medium having associated data,  
2            wherein the data, when accessed, results in a machine performing:  
3            receiving a request associated with a specification at a first access point to  
4        locate a second access point capable of supporting the specification.
- 1        9. The article of claim 8, wherein the specification includes a traffic  
2        specification selected in accordance with an Institute of Electrical and  
3        Electronics Engineers (IEEE) 802.11 standard.
- 1        10. The article of claim 8, wherein the data, when accessed, results in the  
2        machine performing:  
3            constructing a list of candidate access points including the second access  
4        point.
- 1        11. The article of claim 10, wherein the data, when accessed, results in the  
2        machine performing:  
3            sending the request associated with the specification to at least one of the  
4        candidate access points including the second access point; and  
5            determining, by the second access point, that the second access point will  
6        support the specification.  
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1       12. The article of claim 8, wherein the data, when accessed, results in the  
2       machine performing:

3             sending a list of access points capable of supporting the specification,  
4       including the second access point, to a device from which the request was  
5       received.

1       13. An apparatus, comprising:

2             a receiver to receive a request associated with a specification at a first access  
3       point to locate a second access point capable of supporting the specification.

1       14. The apparatus of claim 13, further comprising:

2             a memory coupled to the receiver to store a list of candidate access points  
3       including the second access point.

1       15. The apparatus of claim 13, further comprising:

2             a determination module to determine a capability of a candidate access point  
3       to support the specification.

1       16. The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the specification includes a traffic

2             specification selected in accordance with an Institute of Electrical and  
3       Electronics Engineers (IEEE) 802.11 standard.

1       17. A system, comprising:

2             a first receiver included in a first access point to receive a request associated  
3       with a specification, wherein the first access point is to locate a second access  
4       point capable of supporting the specification; and

5             a second receiver included in the second access point to receive the request  
6       associated with the specification, wherein the second access point is to  
7       determine support of the specification.

1 18. The system of claim 17, wherein the specification includes a traffic  
2 specification selected in accordance with an Institute of Electrical and  
3 Electronics Engineers (IEEE) 802.11 standard, and wherein the first access  
4 point is to negotiate the specification with a station from which the request is  
5 received.

1 19. The system of claim 17, further comprising:  
2 a transceiver including the first receiver; and  
3 a transceiver including the second receiver.

1 20. The system of claim 17, further comprising:  
2 a memory coupled to the first receiver to store a list of candidate access  
3 points including the second access point.

1 21. The system of claim 17, further comprising:  
2 a client unit to generate the request.

1 22. A method, comprising:  
2 determining a second access point capable of supporting a specification by  
3 one of a self-determination request sent from a device capable of  
4 communicating with a first access point to the first access point, and an access  
5 point determination request sent to the first access point.

1 23. The method of claim 22, further comprising:  
2 constructing a list of candidate access points including the second access  
3 point.

1 24. The method of claim 22, wherein the access point determination request  
2 includes a list of candidate access points including the second access point.

- 1       25. The method of claim 22, wherein the specification includes a traffic  
2           specification.
- 1       26. The method of claim 25, wherein the traffic specification is selected in  
2           accordance with an Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE)  
3           802.11 standard.
- 1       27. The method of claim 22, further comprising:  
2           handing off a communication between the first access point and the device to  
3           the second access point upon receiving an indication that the second access point  
4           is capable of supporting the specification.
- 1       28. An apparatus, comprising:  
2           a transmitter to send a request associated with a specification at a first access  
3           point to locate a second access point capable of supporting the specification.
- 1       29. The apparatus of claim 28, further comprising:  
2           a memory coupled to the transmitter to store a list of candidate access points  
3           including the second access point.
- 1       30. The apparatus of claim 28, further comprising:  
2           a determination module to determine a capability of a candidate access point  
3           to support the specification comprising a traffic specification.
- 1       31. A method, comprising:  
2           receiving a request associated with a traffic specification selected in  
3           accordance with an Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE)  
4           802.11 standard and a list of candidate access points including a second access  
5           point capable of supporting the traffic specification at a first access point.

1       32. The method of claim 31, further comprising:  
2             sending the request to at least one of the candidate access points including  
3       the second access point; and  
4             determining, by the second access point, that the second access point will  
5       support the specification.

1       33. The method of claim 32, further comprising:  
2             handing off a communication between the first access point and the device to  
3       the second access point upon receiving an indication that the second access point  
4       is capable of supporting the specification.